

George Washington Carver National Monument 5646 Carver Road Diamond, MO 64840-8314

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George Washington Carver NM News Release

For Immediate Release (417) 325-4151

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY EVENT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2009

George Washington Carver National Monument is hosting a volunteer-led effort to control invasive exotic plants identified at the park. This work will take place in the woodlands and on the prairie. Volunteers-In-Parks (VIPs) will remove these nuisance plants by pulling and cutting. Please join the dedicated VIPs of George Washington Carver National Monument as they help protect America's treasures.

In conjunction with National Public Lands Day, the park will offer two special film presentations. Starting at 2:00 p.m., visitors will have a special opportunity to view an introductory screening of, *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*. This 45 minute film will feature highlights of the six-part, 12 hour documentary, directed by Ken Burns and written & co-produced by Dayton Duncan. The documentary is an opportunity to invite more people to know all 391 national parks and to introduce them to the broader mission and benefits of the National Park Service. The series will premiere on PBS stations nationwide on Sunday, September 27 and continue for six consecutive nights.

The Seeds of Success, The Legacy of George Washington Carver will begin at 3:00 p.m. This 30 minute documentary was locally-produced by Ozarks Public Television presents insight into the life of George Washington Carver. Extensive archival photos and film clips contributes to an enhanced understanding of Carver. Authors and scholars, along with National Park Service rangers, provide a rich and strong commentary on Carver's work and his relevance today. A highlight of the program is a former student of Carver's who shares his special and unique perspective. The program also informs viewers on the establishment of the National Park Service unit in Carver's honor and an overview of what visitors will enjoy while they are here.

National Public Lands Day provides Americans with a dramatic and productive opportunity to pitch in and help improve their public lands. One-third of the land area of the United States is in public ownership. This includes federal, state, city and county lands. These 700 million acres are used and protected for water supply, timber, minerals, recreation, wildlife management, scenic beauty, environmental education, and much more.

George Washington Carver National Monument preserves the birthplace and childhood home of George Washington Carver. The monument is located two miles west of Diamond, Missouri on Hwy V, then south ½ mile on Carver Road. For more information, please call the park at 417-325-4151 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or visit the park website at www.nps.gov/gwca

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